

Oregon Agricultural Education Foundation
NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
February 14, 2007

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2007 Century Farm & Ranch Applications Now Available

(Salem, Or) – Applications are now being accepted for the 2007 award year of the Century Farm & Ranch Program, a statewide recognition program honoring farmers and ranchers who have worked the same land for at least 100 years. The program, now in its 49th year, is administered through the Oregon Agricultural Education Foundation (OAEF) in Salem and is partially funded by the Oregon Farm Bureau, the Oregon Historical Society, Oregon State Parks, the Oregon Department of Agriculture, individual contributions.

Family farmers and ranchers throughout Oregon are encouraged to apply by the **June 1, 2007** deadline. Successful applicants receive a personalized certificate, with acknowledgement by the Governor of Oregon and the Director of the Oregon Department of Agriculture. A durable metal road sign to identify the family's farm or ranch as having historic Century status is also available. Each family will be honored during a special ceremony and reception at the Oregon State Fair in September.

Since the start of the program in 1958, more than 1070 farms and ranches across the State have been registered. Oregon has one of the oldest agricultural heritage programs of this type in the entire nation.

A formal application process is required for properties to be considered for the program. To qualify as a Century Farm or Century Ranch, the family must meet a total of nine criteria, including the following:

- The farm or ranch must have been operated continuously in the same family for 100 years or more. If the farm or ranch has ever been rented or leased, it may not qualify. Documentation is required.

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- The farm or ranch must have a gross income from farming or ranching activities of not less than \$1,000 per year for three out of five years immediately preceding application.
- Family members must live on the property or actively manage and direct the farming or ranching operations.

Application materials are preserved in the manuscript collections of the Oregon Historical Society library and provide useful information for research on the history of agriculture and farm families in Oregon.

To receive the application guidelines and the official form, please contact Glenn Mason, Oregon Century Farm and Ranch Program Coordinator at (503) 297-5892 or orcentury@juno.com or you may download the application guidelines on the Oregon Farm Bureau website: http://www.oregonfb.org/programs/century_farm_ranch.shtml or from the Department of Agriculture website at: http://oda.state.or.us/information/oregon_ag/cfr.html.

Oregon family-owned farms and ranches that have stayed in the family for 150 years now will be eligible for the Oregon Sesquicentennial Farm & Ranch Award. Call (503) 297-5892 for additional information on this new award.

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The Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program is a program within the Oregon Agricultural Education Foundation. OAEF is a 501 (c) 3 Oregon non-profit organization and is included in the Oregon Cultural Trust's list of organizations eligible for the Cultural Trust matching gift program. For more information about the Oregon Agricultural Education Foundation, please call (503) 399-1701, Ext. 327 or send inquiries by mail to: Betty Brose, OAEF, 3415 Commercial Street S.E., Salem, OR 97302.